



Impeachment push builds, 2 GOP senators want Trump to resign

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE,
ALAN FRAM and MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With impeachment planning intensifying, two Republican senators want President Donald Trump to resign immediately as efforts mount to prevent Trump from ever again holding elective office in the wake of deadly riots at the Capitol. House Democrats are expected to introduce articles of impeachment on Monday and vote as soon as Tuesday.

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Members of the National Guard stand inside anti-scaling fencing that surrounds the Capitol complex, Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press



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Continued from Front

The strategy would be to condemn the president's actions swiftly but delay an impeachment trial in the Senate for 100 days. That would allow President-elect Joe Biden to focus on other priorities as soon as he is inaugurated Jan. 20.

Rep. Jim Clyburn, the third-ranking House Democrat and a top Biden ally, laid out the ideas Sunday as the country came to grips with the siege at the Capitol by Trump loyalists trying to overturn the election results.

"Let's give President-elect Biden the 100 days he needs to get his agenda off and running," Clyburn said. Pressure was mounting for Trump to leave office even before his term ended amid alarming concerns of more unrest ahead of the inauguration. The president whipped up the mob that stormed the Capitol, sent lawmakers into hiding and left five dead.

Republican Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania on Sunday joined Republi-



In this Jan. 3, 2017, file photo, Vice President Joe Biden, right, after administers the Senate oath of office to Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, as her husband Verne Martell holds a Bible, during a mock swearing in ceremony in the Old Senate Chamber on Capitol Hill in Washington as the 115th Congress begins.

Associated Press

can Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska in calling for Trump to "resign and go away as soon as possible."

"I think the president has disqualified himself from ever, certainly, serving in office again," Toomey said. "I don't think he is electable in any way."

Murkowski, who has long voiced her exasperation with Trump's conduct in office, told the Anchorage Daily News on Friday that Trump simply "needs to get

out." A third Republican, Sen. Roy Blunt, of Missouri, did not go that far, but on Sunday he warned Trump to be "very careful" in his final days in office.

Corporate America began to tie its reaction to the Capitol riots by tying them to campaign contributions. Blue Cross Blue Shield Association's CEO and President Kim Keck said it will not contribute to those lawmakers — all Republicans — who supported challenges to

Biden's Electoral College win. The group "will suspend contributions to those lawmakers who voted to undermine our democracy," Kim said.

Citigroup did not single out lawmakers aligned with Trump's effort to overturn the election, but said it would be pausing all federal political donations for the first three months of the year. Citi's head of global government affairs, Candi Wolff, said in a Friday memo to employees, "We want you to be assured that we will not support candidates who do not respect the rule of law."

House leaders, furious after the insurrection, appear determined to act against Trump despite the short timeline. Late Saturday, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., convened a conference call with her leadership team and sent a letter to her colleagues reiterating that Trump must be held accountable. She told her caucus, now scattered across the country on a two-week recess, to "be prepared to return to Washington this week" but did not say outright that there would be a vote on impeachment.

"It is absolutely essential that those who perpetrated the assault on our democracy be held accountable," Pelosi wrote. "There must be a recognition that this desecration was instigated by the President."

Senate Majority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has said an impeachment trial could not begin under the current calendar before Inauguration Day, Jan. 20.

Clyburn said that Pelosi "will make the determination as when is the best time" to send articles of impeachment to the Senate if and when they are passed by the House.

Another idea being considered was to have a separate vote that would prevent Trump from ever holding office again. That could potentially only need a simple majority vote of 51 senators, unlike impeachment, in which two-thirds

of the 100-member Senate must support a conviction. The Senate was set to be split evenly at 50-50, but under Democratic control once Vice President-elect Kamala Harris and the two Democrats who won Georgia's Senate runoff elections last week are sworn in. Harris would be the Senate's tie-breaking vote.

House Democrats were considering two possible packages of votes: one on setting up a commission to invoke the 25th Amendment to remove Trump from office and one on the impeachment charge of abuse of power.

Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass., who was part of the weekend leadership call, said he expected a "week of action" in the House.

While many have criticized Trump, Republicans have said that impeachment would be divisive in a time of unity.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., said that instead of coming together, Democrats want to "talk about ridiculous things like 'Let's impeach a president'" with just days left in office. Nebraska Sen. Ben Sasse said he would take a look at any articles that the House sent over. Illinois Rep. Adam Kinzinger, a frequent Trump critic, said he would "vote the right way" if the matter were put in front of him.

The Democratic effort to stamp Trump's presidential record — for the second time — with the indelible mark of impeachment had advanced rapidly since the riot.

Rep. David Cicilline, D-R.I., a leader of the House effort to draft impeachment articles accusing Trump of inciting insurrection, said Sunday that his group had 200-plus co-sponsors.

The articles, if passed by the House, could then be transmitted to the Senate for a trial, with senators acting as jurors to acquit or convict Trump. If convicted, Trump would be removed from office and succeeded by the vice president. It would be the first time a U.S. president had been impeached twice. □



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U.S. diplomats in extraordinary protest against Trump for riot

By **MATTHEW LEE**
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a highly unusual move, American diplomats have drafted two cables condemning President Donald Trump's incitement of the deadly assault on the Capitol and calling for administration officials to possibly support invoking the 25th Amendment to remove him from office.

Using what is known as the State Department's "dissent channel," career foreign and civil service officers said they fear last Wednesday's siege may badly undermine U.S. credibility to promote and defend democratic values abroad.

"Failing to publicly hold the president to account would further damage our democracy and our ability to effectively accomplish our foreign policy goals abroad," according to the second of the two cables, which were circulated among diplomats late last week and then sent to State Department leadership.

The cable called on Pompeo to support any lawful effort by Vice President Mike Pence and other Cabinet members to protect the country including through "the possible implementation of the procedures provided for in Article 4 of the 25th Amendment, if appropriate." The



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visits the White House with family members, Friday, Dec. 11, 2020, in Washington.

amendment allows for the vice president and a majority of the Cabinet to declare a president unfit for office, and the vice president then becomes acting president.

The cables were an extraordinary protest against a sitting U.S. president by American diplomats, who have long complained that the Trump administration has ignored and diminished their role and expertise. The dissent channel is normally used to oppose specific foreign policy decisions. The two most recent cables appear to be unprecedented in their scope and characterization of the

president as a danger to the country.

The cables also reflect anger at the response to the riot by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, a loyal Trump ally.

Pompeo has condemned the violence at the Capitol but has pointedly not addressed the role Trump played in encouraging his supporters who stormed the building. Nor has Pompeo addressed the aftermath or acknowledged that American diplomats overseas may now face new difficulty in promoting democracy.

Trump himself has railed about what he sees as dis-

loyalty at the State Department. He once referred to it publicly — and in front of Pompeo and reporters — as "the deep State Department," a reference to what Trump and his supporters believe is a cabal of entrenched bureaucrats intent on subverting his policies.

It was not immediately clear how many diplomats signed the cables, both of which were viewed by The Associated Press.

The State Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

"It is essential that the Department of State explicitly denounce President

Trump's role in this violent attack on the U.S. government," said the first of the two cables, which added that the president's own comments should not be used "as he is not a credible voice on this matter."

"Just as we routinely denounce foreign leaders who use violence and intimidation to interfere in peaceful democratic processes and override the will of their voters, the department's public statements about this episode should also mention President Trump by name. It is critical that we communicate to the world that in our system, no one -- not even the president -- is above the law or immune from public criticism."

"This would be a first step towards repairing the damage to our international credibility," it said. "It would allow the beacon of democracy to shine on despite this dark episode. It would also send a strong message to our friends and adversaries that the Department of State applies an ethos of integrity and objective standards when it condemns assaults on democracy at home or abroad."

It also said Pompeo should support any effort by Vice President Mike Pence and other Cabinet members to invoke the 25th Amendment to remove Trump from office. □

Associated Press

Arnold Schwarzenegger compares U.S. Capitol mob to Nazis

By **BOBBY CAINA CALVAN**
Associated Press

Former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger compared the mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol to the Nazis and called President Donald Trump a failed leader who "will go down in history as the worst president ever."

The Republican said in a video he released on social media on Sunday that "Wednesday was the Night of Broken Glass right here in the United States."

In 1938, Nazis in Germany and Austria vandalized Jewish homes, schools and businesses during an attack that became known as Kristallnacht or "the Night of Broken Glass."

"The broken glass was in the windows of the United States Capitol.

But the mob did not just shatter the windows of the Capitol, they shattered the ideas we took for granted," he said. "They trampled the very principles on which our coun-

try was founded." Some Proud Boys leaders were arrested in the nation's capital, before and after Wednesday's riots.

In his video, Schwarzenegger called Trump a failed leader and said he took solace that Trump's presidency was coming to an end and "would soon be as irrelevant as an old tweet."

He called for national unity and vowed his support for President-elect Joe Biden after mobs loyal to



This Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021, image from a video released by Schwarzenegger shows former Republican California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger delivering a public message.

Associated Press

Trump broke into the U.S. Capitol, causing a temporary suspension of the electoral count. Members of Congress later returned and certified the results.

Five people died, including a Capitol police officer. Scores of rioters have been arrested and many more are being sought after the brazen attack. □

Cops: Chicago shooter who killed 3 posted social media rants

By SOPHIA TAREEN

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — A man who police say killed three people and wounded four others during a series of shootings in and around Chicago posted nonsensical and expletive-laced videos in the days and hours leading up to the attacks.

Investigators on Sunday were trying to determine a motive for the Saturday afternoon attacks in which police say 32-year-old Jason Nightengale apparently chose his victims at random. Police killed Nightengale in a shootout just north of the city about four hours after authorities say he shot his first victim in the head in a South Side parking garage.

Those killed included a 30-year-old University of Chicago student from China named Yiran Fan, a 20-year-old man and a 46-year-old security guard. Wounded were a 77-year-old woman, 81-year-old woman and a 15-year-old girl, according to Chicago Police Superintendent David Brown. Another woman was shot in the neck in Evanston, police in suburb said.

Authorities didn't release many details about Nightengale, a Chicago man whose LinkedIn page listed work over the years as a janitor, security guard and forklift operator. But a series of disturbing videos posted to Facebook over two years under Nightengale's middle name, Oliver, offered clues as to his state of mind.

In one posted Thursday, Nightengale held a gun to the camera and muttered unintelligible statements as he appeared to be driving. A police official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly about the investigation confirmed it was Nightengale in the video.

"No music. No. No music," Nightengale says in the video, his speech slurred. "I don't need no seat belt. I'm coming, girl."

He posted dozens of other



This 2018 booking photo from the Chicago Police Department shows Jason Nightengale.

Associated Press

short videos, including several in the hours before the first attack, which were viewable until the page was taken down Sunday. In one, he says, "I'm going to blow up the whole community." In another, Nightengale appears to groove to the Bee Gee's "Staying Alive" while laughing.

The shootings began shortly before 2 p.m. Saturday with the killing of Fan, who was shot in the head while sitting in his car in a parking garage in the Hyde Park neighborhood, Brown said. After that, Nightengale "just randomly" walked into an apartment building a block away, where he shot the female security guard and the 77-year-old woman, who was getting her mail, Brown said. The guard was pronounced dead at a hospital and the other woman was hospitalized in critical condition.

From there, Nightengale went to another nearby building and stole a car from a man he knew. He

then opened fire at a convenience store, killing the 20-year-old man and wounding the 81-year-old woman in the head and neck. The woman was in critical condition.

After leaving the store, Nightengale shot a 15-year-old girl who was riding in a car with her mother, leaving the girl in critical condition, police said. He then went back to the convenience store and fired on officers who were investigating the earlier shooting. None of them were injured, Brown said.

Nightengale then drove about 10 miles (16 kilometers) north to Evanston, which borders Chicago, where police responded to a report of shots that had been fired inside a CVS. Nightengale had apparently walked into the pharmacy, announced that he was robbing it and fired off shots that didn't hit anyone, authorities said. He then went across the street to an IHOP restaurant,

where he shot a woman in the neck. She was in critical condition, Evanston police Chief Demitrous Cook told reporters.

Nightengale left the restaurant and was confronted by officers in a parking lot, leading to a shootout in which he was shot and killed, Cook said.

Evanston police Sgt. Ken Carter said Nightengale appeared to have a connection to Evanston, but he did not have further details. He said Sunday that an outside agency would take over the investigation since Evanston police were involved in the fatal shooting.

Chicago police released an October 2018 booking photo of Nightengale that was taken after he was charged with multiple driving-related offenses, including driving on a suspended license. His criminal record started in 2005 and included arrests for gun and drug violations, aggravated assault, and a 2019 domestic

battery case, according to WLS-TV. An attorney for Nightengale couldn't be located Sunday.

Friends were shocked to hear of the shootings, describing Nightengale as a devoted father to twin girls who had a charismatic personality and a sense of humor but who had been through tough times.

Tommy Taylor remembered meeting Nightengale at a movies in the park event in Rogers Park, a Chicago neighborhood that borders Evanston. They hung out over the years.

"From all the years I knew him, he had always been a good guy and funny guy," Taylor said. "Something had to happen in order for him to break him like that." University of Chicago officials said Fan was working toward a doctorate in a joint program between the university's schools of business and economics, and that his family in China had been notified of his death.

"We know that this shocking incident brings grief to our entire community and concern for the wellbeing and safety of others," the university said in a news release. "In the days ahead we will come together as a community to mourn, and to lift up fellow members of our community in this difficult and very sad time. Please join us in wishing consolation and healing for our student's loved ones." Brown said the information he shared at the news conference was preliminary and could change. He said investigators had little information about Nightengale but plan to release more details as they get them.

"When you hear this whole story, it seems that you have a crystal ball of what he's doing next, and we all know we don't have a crystal ball where he goes next nor do we have this on any of our POD cameras," Brown said. "We are responding to the scene as these crimes are happening, getting information, and again, he's going to the next while we are trying to keep up with what's happened previously." □

Chinese state media blast latest Pompeo move on Taiwan

By KEN MORITSUGU

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China's state media lashed out at the latest move on Taiwan by the departing Trump administration, accusing U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo of "seeking to maliciously inflict a long-lasting scar on China-U.S. ties."

A writer for the official Xinhua News Agency also said in a commentary Sunday that the lifting of long-standing restrictions on U.S. government contacts with Taiwanese counterparts proves that Pompeo "is only interested in stoking unwarranted confrontations, and has no interest in world peace."

Another commentary posted online by CGTN, the English-language channel of state broadcaster CCTV, called Pompeo's announcement "a cowardly act of sabotage" of the next U.S. administration.

"The Trump administration, in its continuing efforts to burn the house down before leaving office, has crossed a dangerous red line with China days before incoming President Joe Biden takes office," the commentary read in part. Biden takes office on Jan. 20.

There was no immediate comment from the Chinese government on Pompeo's decision to end State Department restrictions on how U.S. officials can interact with Taiwan, which he said had been implemented to appease the Communist regime in Beijing.

Taiwan is a sensitive issue for China's ruling Communist Party, which considers the self-governing island of 23.6 million people a renegade province that should be brought under its rule. Under the one-China policy, the U.S. recognizes Beijing as the government of China and doesn't have diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

However, it maintains unofficial contacts including a de facto embassy in Taipei, the capital, and sup-

plies military equipment for the island's defense.

Taiwan's leaders welcomed Pompeo's announcement.

"We are expressing our gratitude toward the U.S. for speaking out and supporting Taiwan," Premier Su Tseng-chang told reporters. "We also hope to interact actively with each other further, so that Taiwan could have an even bigger space in the international society."

He and Foreign Minister Joseph Wu, who thanked Pompeo on Twitter, emphasized the values of freedom and democracy shared by Taiwan and the U.S. — a contrast to China's authoritarian one-party state.

Pompeo's announcement

came two days after he said he would send Kelly Craft, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, to Taiwan for meetings this week.

She is due to arrive on Wednesday.

Craft's trip follows one by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar in August, the first Cabinet member to visit Taiwan since 2014, and another by Under Secretary of State Keith Krach in September.

China, which opposes Taiwan having its own foreign relations, sharply criticizes all such interaction. It stepped up aerial patrols off Taiwan last year and used its diplomatic clout to block Taiwan from participating in international forums, such as the World



In this Nov. 24, 2020, file photo, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo speaks to the media prior to meeting with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah at the State Department in Washington.

Associated Press

Health Organization's annual meeting.

Hu Xijin, the editor of China's state-owned Global Times newspaper, tweeted that if Pompeo's an-

ouncement is the new starting point for America's Taiwan policy, it will also mark the start of the countdown for the survival of Taiwan's government. □



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UN envoy: Britain is 'gung ho' about world role after Brexit

By **EDITH M. LEDERER**

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

Britain's new U.N. ambassador says the government is feeling "gung ho" about continuing its role as an important player on the world stage despite its exit from the European Union.

Barbara Woodward pointed to the United Kingdom's permanent seat on the powerful U.N. Security Council, its presidency this year of the Group of Seven major industrialized nations, its membership in the Group of 20 leading economic powers and NATO, and its hosting of the next United Nations global climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland, in November.

"Don't underestimate the power of the relationship with the EU," she stressed in an interview with The Associated Press this past week. "There's a lot of values and principles which we share with European partners which I think will stand us in good stead."

Britain's long and sometimes contentious divorce from the EU became final on Dec. 31, a split that left the 27-member bloc without one of its major economic powers and the U.K. freer to chart its future but facing a world trying to confront a deadly pandemic and cope with rising unemployment, growing



British Ambassador to the United Nations Barbara Woodward poses for a photo, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021, in New York.

Associated Press

divisions between haves and have-nots, and a climate crisis.

An article in the U.S.-based World Politics Review in October identified three visions for Britain's future: "Catastrophists who argue that the U.K. has become completely irrelevant on the international stage as a result of Brexit; the nostalgics, who see a powerful Britain through the lens of a great colonial power; and the denialists, who refuse to accept that Britain must adapt to a changing global context."

Authors Ben Judah, a British-French journalist and au-

thor, and Georgina Wright, a Brexit researcher at the Institute for Government, a U.K. think tank, said that since Britain voted to leave the EU in 2016 "it is undeniable that both British leadership and influence over global affairs have taken a hit."

"In international circles, it has become fashionable to be overly dismissive of Britain's weight in world affairs," they said. "Yet the country continues to carry weight."

Woodward, who came to the U.N. after more than five years as ambassador to China and previously

served in Russia, agrees.

"We've had a pretty introspective three years with Brexit negotiations and managing COVID," she said, but with the upcoming climate summit and Britain's presidency of the G-7 as the group grapples with economic recovery from the pandemic, "I think we've got quite a big role to play."

She said Prime Minister Boris Johnson is "very keen on multilateralism." On Dec. 31, as Britain was leaving the EU, he said the U.K. is now "free to do trade deals around the world, and free to turbocharge our ambi-

tion to be a science superpower." Early this month, the Economist magazine said the U.K. has the opportunity "to cut a dash on the world stage," with its G-7 presidency -- including possible invitations to Australia, India and South Korea to attend the group's sessions -- and hosting the climate summit in Glasgow, "the most important diplomatic event of the year."

Johnson is expected to visit India and be Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guest of honor on Republic Day on Jan. 26, "part of a much-touted 'tilt to the Indo-Pacific,'" the Economist said, adding that Britain has also opened discussions to join the 11-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership and is pushing to become a "dialogue partner" of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Woodward said the U.K.'s exit from the EU makes the United Nations and Britain's permanent Security Council seat "more important because the U.N. has always been the biggest multilateral forum."

She pointed to Sunday's hybrid commemoration of the first meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in London 75 years ago which Britain is hosting, saying the world is very different today "but so many of the divisions are perhaps even deeper now." □

Once-jailed nationalist wins Kyrgyzstan presidency



Kyrgyzstan presidential candidate Sadyr Zhaparov greets his supporters during a meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, Friday, Jan. 8, 2021.

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A nationalist politician who was

released from prison amid protests that overthrew

Kyrgyzstan's president last year has been elected as his replacement. Voters in Sunday's election that gave Sadyr Zhaparov a landslide 79% victory also approved a referendum to change the constitution to give the presidency more power.

The vote followed the ouster of the previous president in October.

The ex-Soviet Central Asian nation sank into turmoil after a parliamentary election that was swept by pro-government parties. Opposition supporters accused authorities of rigging the vote and forced President

Sooronbai Jeenbekov to step down on Oct. 15.

Zhaparov, who was imprisoned in 2017 on conviction of involvement in the kidnapping of a regional governor, spearheaded Jeenbekov's removal from office.

The unrest marked the third time in 15 years when a leader of the 6.5-million nation on the border with China was forced out by a popular uprising. Like the previous uprisings that toppled presidents in 2005 and 2010, the latest turmoil was driven by clan rivalries that shape the country's politics.

Zhaparov pushed for the constitutional referendum Sunday, under which the presidency will gain powers formerly held by the parliament.

Kyrgyzstan, which is a member of Russia-dominated economic and security alliances, hosts a Russian air base and depends on Moscow's economic support. It formerly was the site of a U.S. air base that served as a key transport hub for the war in Afghanistan.

Russia has voiced concerns about the turmoil in Kyrgyzstan but refrained from supporting any of the presidential candidates. □

Indonesian divers find parts of plane wreckage in Java Sea

By **VICTORIA MILKO and EDNA TARIGAN**
Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Authorities said they determined the location of the crash site and black boxes of a Boeing 737-500 on Sunday, a day after the aircraft crashed into the Java Sea with 62 people on board shortly after taking off from Indonesia's capital.

The head of Indonesia's National Search and Rescue Agency, Bagus Puruhito, said officials believe they identified the location of the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder — the so-called black boxes — because emergency signals transmitted by the devices were detected by a navy ship's sonar system.

"Hopefully we can lift the black boxes in short time to determine the cause of the crash," military chief Hadi Tjahjanto said.

Earlier Sunday, search and rescue operations resulted in parts of the plane being found in the sea at a depth of 23 meters (75 feet), leading rescuers to continue searching the area.

"We received reports from the diver team that the visibility in the water is good and clear, allowing the discovery of some parts of the plane," Tjahjanto said in a statement. "We are sure that is the point where the plane crashed."

He said the objects found included broken pieces of fuselage with aircraft registration parts. Earlier, rescuers pulled out body parts,



An investigator of Indonesian National Transportation Safety Committee inspects parts of Sriwijaya Air Flight 182 that crashed in the waters off Java Island, at Tanjung Priok Port in Jakarta, Indonesia, Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021.

Associated Press

pieces of children's clothing and scraps of metal from the surface.

The break in the search for Sriwijaya Air Flight 182 came after the navy ship's sonar equipment detected a signal from the aircraft at a location that fit the coordinates from the last contact made by the pilots before the plane disappeared Saturday afternoon, Tjahjanto said.

The plane was en route from Jakarta to Pontianak, the capital of West Kalimantan province on Indonesia's Borneo island, on a flight that was expected to take around 90 minutes.

It was still unclear what caused it to crash. There was no sign of survivors.

"I represent the government and all Indonesians

in expressing my deep condolences for this tragedy," Indonesian President Joko Widodo said.

"We are doing our best to save the victims. We pray together so that the victims can be found," he said, adding that he had asked the National Transport Safety Committee to conduct an investigation.

Fishermen in the area between Lancang and Laki islands, part of an archipelago around Thousand Islands north of Jakarta's coast, reported hearing an explosion around 2:30 p.m. Saturday. "We heard something explode — we thought it was a bomb or a tsunami since after that we saw a big splash from the water," Solihin, who goes by one name, said

by phone. "It was raining heavily and the weather was so bad, so it was difficult to see around clearly," Solihin said. "But we saw the splash and a big wave after the loud sound. We were very shocked and saw the plane debris and the fuel around our boat." Transportation Minister Budi Karya Sumadi said the flight was delayed for an hour before it took off at 2:36 p.m. It disappeared from radar four minutes later, after the pilot contacted air traffic control to ascend to an altitude of 29,000 feet (8,839 meters), he said.

There were 62 people on board, all of them Indonesian nationals, including three babies and seven other children. The plane was carrying 50 passengers,

six working crew members and six other crew for another flight. "Our thoughts are with the crew, passengers, and their families," Boeing said in a statement. "We are in contact with our airline customer and stand ready to support them during this difficult time."

Authorities established two crisis centers, one at Soekarno-Hatta International Airport, where the plane departed from, and one at port. Families gathered to wait for news about their loved ones. On social media, people began circulating the flight manifesto with photos and videos of those who were listed as passengers. One video shows a woman with her children waving goodbye while walking through the airport. Sriwijaya Air president director Jefferson Irwin Jauwena said the plane, which was 26 years old and previously used by airlines in the United States, was airworthy. He told reporters Saturday that the plane had previously flown to Pontianak and Pangkal Pinang city on the same day. He said the plane was delayed due to bad weather, not because of any mechanical problems. Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago nation, with more than 260 million people, has been plagued by transportation accidents on land, sea and air because of overcrowding on ferries, aging infrastructure and poorly enforced safety standards. □

6 rangers killed in latest attack at Congo's Virunga park

By **JEAN YVES KAMALE**
Associated Press

KINSHASA, Congo (AP) — Gunmen have killed at least six rangers in Virunga National Park, the latest attack in the part of eastern Congo that is home to some of the world's last mountain gorillas, officials said Sunday.

The violence took place on Sunday in Nyamitwitwi, located in the Rutshuru area of the park, said Olivier Mukisya, spokesman for the Congolese Institute for the

Conservation of Nature.

"We confirm that a group of armed men attacked our positions," Mukisya told The Associated Press. "We have dead and wounded among our ranger colleagues." There was no immediate claim of responsibility, though past attacks on Virunga park rangers have been blamed on several armed groups that vie for control of eastern Congo's natural resources. Among those rebel groups is the Democratic Forces

for the Liberation of Rwanda, known by its French acronym FDLR, an ethnic Hutu group opposed to the government of neighboring Rwanda and one of the last factions of Rwandan rebels active in the Congo. In April 2020, an ambush near the Virunga National Park killed 12 rangers and five civilians, and critically injured several others.

More than 200 rangers have been killed since Virunga became a national park in 1925, officials say. □



In this Aug. 12, 2012 file photo, Park rangers patrol in the Virunga National Park near Rumangabo, some 60 kms (40 miles) north of Goma, eastern Congo.

Associated Press



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Henkjan Kievit: SHAPE/DCNA

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Aruba Bob Snorkling

them, and do not follow or chase them. In the rare case you encounter dolphins in the water, stay calm and keep yourself outside of the group, float calmly with your arms close to your body and observe if you see any signs of injury, entanglement or another reason to need recovery and report this. To report any observations or concerns please contact FPNA (Facebook Aruba National Park) or Giolina Henriquez of the Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation (Facebook Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation). □

Aruba's Aloe

ORANJESTAD — The aloe plant has been grown on Aruba since the mid-1800. The climate and the dry soil are particularly suitable for the aloe culture. The plant flourishes well here: the Aruban aloe has an aloin content of 22 %, while the content of aloin in the rest of the world is 15% at the most.

The flourishing of the aloe culture in Aruba was under Commander Jan Helenus Ferguson (1866-1871). That's why the road that leads from downtown through the aloe fields was named after him. In the 19th century, an aloe plantation was also constructed in Socotora; Socotora has probably been named after the island of Sokotra or Socotora, at the time a British island in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of Yemen. That island lies on the same degree of longitude as Aruba and aloe is grown there too. The legend says that Alexander the Great, on the recommendation of Aristotle, conquered this island for the aloe that he used to cure the wounds of his soldiers.

On the aloe plantation Mon Plaisir, owned by the Frenchman Louis Bazin, a for its time modern steam driven cooking installation was installed, in the beginning of 1900. In the 19th century, Aruba was the main supplier of aloin resin that was mainly used for the production of laxatives. The aloin was exported abroad, mainly to New York, but also to Hamburg and to London. The resin from the Antilles (called 'Curaçao resin' at the time) was one of the best in the world and more expensive than the other types on the market. Aruba's share in the export of 'Curaçao resin' was over 90%. In the economy of that time, before the arrival of the oil industry, aloe meant a reasonable source of income, in particular for the small 'cunucero' (farmer). In times of unemployment – de dry season – the aloe culture was a good source of existence.



In the beginning of 1900, the first scientific research is done on the aloe plant. This confirmed clearly the healing effect of aloin on sunburn and other burns. The arrival of the oil indus-

try had a big impact on the labor market on Aruba and the aloe culture got a bit on the background. It was only after World War II that the aloe culture was resumed. In 1949

Casey Eman founded the first aloe factory of Aruba, under the name of Aruba Aloe Products Company. At the time, the aloe juices were locally processed to aloin and shipped to the

United States. In 1951, the production of Aruban aloe amounted to about 15.000 pounds or 30% of the total world production. Source: <http://www.historiadiaruba.aw>. □

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Amazing Azure



Aruba Today was delighted to talk to a wonderful couple from New York, Esteban Marquez and his wife who are proud owner of one of the condos. "We love the condo we have purchased at Azure. We are planning on retirement five years from now,

we are from New York. This is excellent, we are very happy with our choice and we love the island." Happy owners on a happy island, it sounds like music to his ears says Alberto Perret-Gentil, Executive Vice-president of Operations at Azure Beach Residences. "In August we had the grand opening of Tower II of Azure Beach Residences. We see that there is a new trend of people wanting to work from their second home, their vacation condo. Our island is blessed with the perfect beaches and climate, it is very safe and —many do not know this— it has the best internet in the Caribbean." During the COVID-19 crisis Pering Group, also the developer of Harbour House Aruba, stays connected to their market and is able to capture all those people staying home at this time. "We continuously show our new projects and new financial

ideas. We are very optimistic. This is going to be the best semester in sales in our 20 years on Aruba," Perret-Gentil states.

Tower 1 of Azure Beach Residences has 45 units on the northern and southern corner and is practically sold out. The residence offers two units at the upper level of the Clubhouse which has on the ground level the restaurant and the lobby and on the upper level the gym, area for grill and a pool table. Tower 2 offers 60 units with studios, 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom, 3-bedroom units and 3-bedroom penthouses at the 8th floor. For more information you can visit the website www.azure-aruba.com. Harbour House Aruba is another project of this group offering 94 condominiums in Oranjestad, just in front of the Renaissance Mall. More information can be found at: www.harbour-housearuba.com. □

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New law cracks down on shell companies to combat corruption

By **JOSHUA GOODMAN**

Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — For years as a federal prosecutor in New York, Daniel R. Alonso led teams that had to search through a maze of anonymously owned corporate entities to expose criminal activity.

"It required all kinds of shoe-leather investigating to identify who was really behind these shell companies," recalled Alonso. "You'd have to subpoena bank records and lawyers, as well as human sources, and even then you frequently hit a dead end."

Now, thanks to a watershed overhaul of U.S. money laundering laws, locating the proceeds from foreign bribery, drug trafficking and financing for terrorists could be as easy as a few keystrokes.

The new legislation quietly passed by Congress last month after a decade-long fight is the most sweeping banking reform of its kind since passage of the Patriot Act, in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

For the first time, shell companies will be required to provide the names of their owners or face stiff penalties and jail sentences. The information will be stored in a confidential database accessible to federal law

enforcement and shared with banks who are often unwitting accomplices to international corruption.

"It's not an overstatement that this law is a game changer in some serious ways," said Alonso, who is now in private practice advising clients on foreign corruption and anti-money laundering issues.

The Corporate Transparency Act was tucked into a defense spending bill first vetoed by President Donald Trump and then overridden by Congress on New Year's Day.

It was introduced by Rep. Carolyn Maloney, a New York Democrat, in 2010 and early on faced opposition from banks and business groups worried about red tape as well as states such as Delaware and Wyoming, which reap important revenues from the registration every year in the U.S. of nearly 2 million corporations and limited liability companies.

But a string of international financial scandals involving soccer's governing body FIFA and the 1MDB development bank from Malaysia, as well as the leaking of the so-called Panama Papers, eventually softened criticism by revealing the prominent role played by secretive shell companies in hiding the proceeds from

illicit activity.

The U.S. financial system -- the world's largest and most stable -- has long been a magnet for dirty money. But the tools to prevent abuse by bad actors haven't kept pace with technology and a proliferation of instant, online transactions across borders.

The new law seeks to strengthen controls by creating a registry managed by the Treasury Department that will contain the names of the true owners of both domestically-created shell companies as well as foreign ones conducting business in the U.S.

Creating a shell company in states like Delaware requires little more than a payment of a \$90 fee and a one-page letter listing the entity's the name, P.O. Box and a registered agent who is frequently a law firm dedicated to churning out companies in bulk. The true owners are rarely listed, their identities hidden under a web of subsidiaries. But once created, the entities can be used to purchase legitimate assets, such as real estate, using ill-gotten funds furtively transferred into a U.S. bank account.

One such Delaware-based company, Essential Consultants LLC, was used by Trump's former personal at-



This Thursday, June 6, 2019 file photo shows the U.S. Treasury Department building at dusk in Washington.

Associated Press

torney, Michael Cohen, to conceal hush money payments to porn star Stormy Daniels. Others registered in the state have been tied to corrupt military officers in Venezuela, drug trafficking guerrillas from Colombia and former Zimbabwean dictator Robert Mugabe.

"Congress was late to acknowledge that secrecy is alive and well in the United States," said David P. Weber, a former U.S. Treasury investigator who was one of two experts to review the Panama Papers before publication. He now is a forensic accounting professor at Salisbury University in Maryland. "Kleptocrats and corrupt foreign officials did not need secret bank accounts in Switzerland. They were right here."

Less touted, the law also

dramatically expands awards for whistleblowers. Specifically, individuals who come forward with evidence of financial malfeasance are entitled to receive up to 30% of money seized by the Treasury or Justice Departments when their information leads to successful law enforcement actions. Previously, awards were capped at \$150,000.

"This could end up being the secret sauce," said Michael Nadler, a recently retired federal prosecutor in Miami who has brought charges against dozens of corrupt Venezuelan officials. "It has the potential to weaponize low-ranking company officers who have access to sensitive client information and see criminal behavior." □

Roku buys library of the short-lived streaming service Quibi

The Associated Press

Roku is buying the content library of Quibi, the short-lived streaming service, to bulk up its own free ad-supported channel.

Quibi, short for quick bites, raised \$1.75 billion from investors including major Hollywood players like Disney, NBCUniversal and Viacom. It produced shows that were released in 10- to 12-minute increments or less, believing that there was strong demand from people stuck doing anything from waiting in lines to commuting.

But it stepped into a market already saturated with short videos from YouTube, TikTok and other platforms, and that content is essen-



This Aug. 13, 2020 file photo shows a logo for Roku on a remote control in Portland, Ore.

Associated Press

tially generated free of cost.

Quibi also launched in April 2020, when a global pandemic scrambled the rou-

tines of millions, including commutes to work. It shut down last month.

Roku created its business solely as a hub for other

streaming services, but has recently begun piling up content for its free Roku Channel.

With the acquisition, Roku will acquire 75 staccato-style programming with some very big names attached. Idris Elba, Kevin Hart, Liam Hemsworth, Anna Kendrick, Nicole Richie, Chrissy Teigen and Lena Waithe have all been in Quibi shows. That includes more than 12 shows that never aired on Quibi before it was shuttered. The shows target the 18-35 demographic, an attractive segment for advertisers.

Roku spokesperson Dallas Lawrence said the short format will work well for the ad-supported Roku

Channel because there are "natural commercial breaks built into the programming."

The Quibi content, created for mobile viewing, can still be viewed on phones via Roku's mobile app.

Roku says its channel reached 61.8 million people in the fourth quarter, double that from the prior year. More people are streaming entertainment as people stay at home during the pandemic, but there's growing competition, too. New streaming services including Discovery+, NBCUniversal's Peacock, HBO Max, and others have been launched to rival older services like Netflix and Hulu. □

Parler squeezed as Trump seeks new online megaphone

By **FRANK BAJAK**

AP Technology Writer

BOSTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has been kicked off of most mainstream social media platforms following his supporters' siege on the U.S. Capitol. But it remains to be seen how fast or where — if anywhere — on the internet he will be able to reach his followers.

The far right-friendly Parler had been the leading candidate, at least until Google and Apple removed it from their app stores and Amazon decided to boot it off its web hosting service by midnight Pacific time on Sunday.

Parler's CEO said that could knock it offline for a week, though that might prove optimistic. And even if it finds a friendlier web-hosting service, without a smartphone app, it's hard to imagine Parler gaining mainstream success.

The 2-year-old magnet for the far right claims more than 12 million users, though mobile app analytics firm Sensor Tower puts the number at 10 million worldwide, with 8 million in the U.S. That's a fraction of the 89 million followers Trump had on Twitter.

Still, Parler might be attractive to Trump since it's where his sons Eric and Don Jr. are already active. Parler hit headwinds, though, on Friday as Google yanked its smartphone app from its app store for allowing postings that seek "to incite ongoing violence in the U.S." Apple followed suit on Saturday evening after giving Parler 24 hours to address complaints it was being used to "plan and facilitate yet further illegal and dangerous activities." Public safety issues will need to be resolved before it is restored, Apple said.

A message seeking comment from Parler was sent Sunday on whether the company plans to change its policies and enforcement around these issues. Amazon struck another blow Saturday, informing Parler it would need to look for a new web-hosting service effective midnight



In this Thursday, June 18, 2020 file photo, President Donald Trump looks at his phone during a roundtable with governors on the reopening of America's small businesses, in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

Sunday. It reminded Parler in a letter, first reported by BuzzFeed, that it had informed it in the past few weeks of 98 examples of posts "that clearly encourage and incite violence" and said the platform "poses a very real risk to public safety."

Parler CEO John Matze decried the punishments as "a coordinated attack by the tech giants to kill competition in the marketplace. We were too successful too fast," he said in a Saturday night post, saying it was possible Parler would be unavailable for up to a week "as we rebuild from scratch."

Earlier, Matze complained of being scapegoated. "Standards not applied to Twitter, Facebook or even Apple themselves, apply to Parler." He said he "won't cave to politically motivated companies and those authoritarians who hate free speech."

Losing access to the app stores of Google and Apple — whose operating systems power hundreds of millions of smartphones — severely limits Parler's reach, though it will continue to be acces-

sible via web browser. Losing Amazon Web Services will mean Parler needs to scramble to find another web host, in addition to the re-engineering.

Trump may also launch his own platform. But that won't happen overnight, and free speech experts anticipate growing pressure on all social media platforms to curb incendiary speech as Americans take stock of Wednesday's violent takeover of the U.S. Capitol by a Trump-incited mob. Twitter ended Trump's nearly 12-year run on Friday. In shuttering his account, it cited a tweet to his 89 million followers that he planned to skip President-elect Joe Biden's Jan. 20 inauguration, saying it gave rioters license to converge on Washington once again.

Facebook and Instagram have suspended Trump at least until Inauguration Day. Twitch and Snapchat also disabled Trump's accounts, while Shopify took down online stores affiliated with the president and Reddit removed a Trump subgroup. Twitter also banned Trump loyalists

including former national security advisor Michael Flynn in a sweeping purge of accounts promoting the QAnon conspiracy theory and the Capitol insurrection. Some had hundreds of thousands of followers.

In a statement Friday, Trump said: "We have been negotiating with various other sites, and will have a big announcement soon, while we also look at the possibilities of building out our own platform in the near future."

Gab is another potential landing spot for Trump. But it, too, has had troubles with internet hosting. Google and Apple both booted it from their app stores in 2017 and it was left internet-homeless for a time the following year due to anti-Semitic posts attributed to the man accused of killing 11 people at a Pittsburgh synagogue. Microsoft also terminated a web-hosting contract.

Online speech experts expect social media companies led by Facebook, Twitter and Google's YouTube to more vigorously police hate speech and incitement in the wake of the

Capitol rebellion, as Western democracies led by Nazism-haunted Germany already do.

David Kaye, a University of California-Irvine law professor and former U.N. special rapporteur on free speech believes the Parlers of the world will also face pressure from the public and law enforcement as will little-known sites where further pre-inauguration disruption is now apparently being organized. They include MeWe, Wimkin, TheDonald.win and Stormfront, according to a report released Saturday by The Alethea Group, which tracks disinformation.

Kaye rejects arguments by U.S. conservatives including the president's former U.N. ambassador, Nikki Haley, that the Trump ban savaged the First Amendment, which prohibits the government from restricting free expression. "Silencing people, not to mention the President of the US, is what happens in China not our country," Haley tweeted.

"It's not like the platforms' rules are draconian. People don't get caught in violations unless they do something clearly against the rules," said Kaye. And not just individual citizens have free speech rights. "The companies have their freedom of speech, too."

While initially arguing their need to be neutral on speech, Twitter and Facebook gradually yielded to public pressure drawing the line especially when the so-called Plandemic video emerged early in the coronavirus pandemic urging people not to wear masks, noted civic media professor Ethan Zuckerman of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Zuckerman expects the Trump de-platforming may spur important online shifts. First, there may be an accelerated splintering of the social media world along ideological lines.

"Trump will pull a lot of audience wherever he goes," he said. That could mean more platforms with smaller, more ideologically isolated audiences. □

Possible virus exposure for lawmakers sheltering during riot

By LISA MASCARO
AP Congressional Correspondent
WASHINGTON (AP) — House lawmakers may have been exposed to someone testing positive for COVID-19 while they sheltered at an undisclosed location during the Capitol siege by a violent mob loyal to President Donald Trump. The Capitol's attending physician notified all lawmakers Sunday of the virus exposure and urged them to be tested. The infected individual was not named. Dr. Brian Moynihan wrote that "many members of

the House community were in protective isolation in the large room — some for several hours" on Wednesday. He said "individuals may have been exposed to another occupant with coronavirus infection." Dozens of lawmakers were whisked to the secure location after pro-Trump insurrectionists stormed the Capitol that day, breaking through barricades to roam the halls and offices and ransacking the building. Some members of Congress huddled for hours in



Workers install a flag on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol as preparations take place for President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration, Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

the large room, while others were there for a shorter period. No further details were provided on which person has tested positive for the virus. Some lawmakers and staff were furious after video sur-

faced of Republican lawmakers not wearing their masks in the room during lockdown. □

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By Dave Green

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PBS' 'Masterpiece' marks 50th year with challenges ahead

By LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — As PBS' "Masterpiece" marks its 50th anniversary Sunday, the drama and mystery showcase could rest on its reputation built with acclaimed programs including "I, Claudius" and "Elizabeth R" and polished anew by surprising pop-culture hits "Sherlock" and "Downton Abbey."

But "Masterpiece" executive producer Susanne Simpson says it's positioned to thrive as it addresses the challenges posed by a changing media industry and increased calls for diversity.

"'Masterpiece' is important to the PBS system. Our viewers expect us to keep finding the best" in TV, Simpson said, even as competition from commercial platforms increases.

With more streaming services and other outlets gobbling up programs, including the British-made dramas that are a "Masterpiece" staple, the public TV program is becoming more aggressive in the marketplace, Simpson said.

She joined the series nearly 14 years ago and became its executive producer in 2019, only the fourth since "Masterpiece" debuted Jan. 10, 1971, with the miniseries "The First Churchills." "We are investing earlier and we're co-producing earlier on projects, so we're in a position to be able to put development money into scripts," Simpson said. "I have probably 15 projects sitting in my inbox, and I'm going to have to make a decision quickly on one of those because there is so much competition for those projects."

When "Masterpiece" was under executive producer Rebecca Eaton in the mid-1980s, she "used to be able to sit back" and mull her choice of U.K.-produced shows, Simpson said.

As unlikely as it seems in the age of Netflix's celebrated "The Crown" and its new multiethnic sensation "Bridgerton," U.S. networks used to avoid British drama "because the general



This image released by PBS shows Tamara Lawrance, left, and Hayley Atwell in a scene from the miniseries "The Long Song" debuting Jan. 31 on "Masterpiece."

Associated Press

feeling was nobody could understand the accent," Eaton recalled. Worse yet, they thought it sounded too high-brow for Americans.

But in 1985, there was suddenly "somebody else in the game" besides PBS and the A&E channel, said Eaton, now executive producer at large for "Masterpiece."

"HBO pounced on doing 'Elizabeth I' with Helen Mirren, which was a very rude shock because we considered rather comfortably that we owned Elizabeth I," she said. "Masterpiece" had aired "Elizabeth R," the 1972 miniseries with Glenda Jackson as the monarch, a perceived stake that HBO blithely ignored.

"Masterpiece" can't compete with Netflix- or HBO-sized budgets, Simpson said, relying on corporate sponsors Viking and Raymond James and big and small viewer donations (specific figures were not provided). But she said it makes the most of its relationships with producers such as Colin Callender, whose "All Creatures Great and Small" reboot kicks off the new "Masterpiece" season Sunday.

The Public Broadcasting Service also ensures that its programming is reaching viewers, especially younger ones, where and how they watch TV, which increasingly is anywhere but on a stuck-to-the-wall screen. While PBS may be viewed primarily as a traditional broadcaster, its programs (and educational initiatives) are available online. "Masterpiece" streams on PBS.org and the PBS Video app to an audience that skews younger than its broadcast viewership, with nearly 40 percent under the age of 55, according to PBS.

The showcase also is responding to the growing call for inclusivity in Hollywood screen projects, Simpson said. That would seem daunting when it comes to ethnic diversity, given that the series' period dramas traditionally skew white, but she said it can and is being done.

That requires the cooperation of British TV producers, whose industry has faced its own sharp criticism for long minimizing people of color as actors and creators.

"I've had some terrific, serious conversations in which it's clear to me that our U.K.

producers are as committed as we are" to adding diversity across the board, including in writing, directing and acting, Simpson said.

Callender said the call for change is being heeded, even with "All Creatures Great and Small," which is based on semiautobiographical books by a veterinarian practicing in a rural English community in the late 1930s.

"The thrust of diversity meant several things," Callender said, including making the female characters fully dimensional, casting actors with physical challenges and creating a character inspired by the family history of Black actor Clea Sylvestre, who plays the role.

"Masterpiece" is doing its own work, Simpson said. That includes taking an active role in fostering diversity in projects as they're being developed, she said, and discovering authentic ways to reflect inclusivity in period dramas, among them 2019's "Les Misérables" miniseries.

David Oyelowo, the English-born Black actor who starred as the obsessed police inspector Javert,

felt comfortable taking the role after he looked into 19th-century French history and found that there were Black police officers, Simpson recounted.

"What I learned from him is that it's really our obligation as the writers and the producers to look more deeply at history in terms of what people of color were authentically, and to take more effort to find those stories," she said.

"The Long Song," a three-part drama debuting Jan. 31 on "Masterpiece," exemplifies what is hiding in plain sight. Based on Andrea Levy's historical novel of the same name, a finalist for the prestigious Booker literary prize, it tells of a young Black woman's life in the final years of slavery in Jamaica and its aftermath.

Pandemic uncertainty brought it to "Masterpiece," when taping on some of its U.K. shows paused last March and Simpson sought available programs as a safeguard. Already familiar with the late Levy's work because "Masterpiece" had aired an adaptation of her "Small Island" novel in 2010, Simpson said she found "The Long Song" to be "powerful and moving."

Tamara Lawrance, who stars as the main character, said every generation believes "things are changing, things are different," but sees a welcome energy in the British creative community that is building on the past.

"I'm so proud of 'The Long Song' and being in a cast of people like that, of amazing older Black actors that I grew up watching," Lawrance said. □

SOLUTION SUDOKU

Difficulty Level ★

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1	6	9	2	5	3	7	4	8
3	7	5	1	4	8	6	9	2
8	2	4	6	7	9	1	3	5
5	4	2	6	1	9	8	7	3
9	3	7	8	2	5	4	6	1
6	8	1	4	3	7	2	5	9
7	9	8	3	6	2	5	1	4
4	5	3	7	8	1	9	2	6
2	1	9	5	6	4	3	8	7

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Heat-Celtics game postponed by NBA due to virus protocols

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

Boston was going to have to face Miami with the NBA minimum of eight players on Sunday night. In the end, the Heat weren't even certain they would have that many.

The game between Boston and Miami was postponed — not because the Celtics ruled out seven players due to the league's health and safety protocols for playing during the coronavirus pandemic, but because of concerns about exposure within the Heat roster.

The Heat learned earlier Sunday that guard Avery Bradley would not be available for the game in Boston because of the COVID-19 protocols. That meant the Heat had to go through the contact tracing data, and with that process still ongoing late Sunday afternoon, the decision was made to postpone the game out of abundance of caution.

The league announced the decision about two hours before the 7 p.m. scheduled tipoff.

"You are starting to see what is going on in our country directly affect the NBA because we are no longer in that safety net of the bubble," Denver coach Michael Malone said in New York, where his team was facing the Knicks, after learning of the postpone-

ment.

The Celtics would have been without seven players for the game due to the NBA's COVID-19 protocols, all of them ruled out earlier Sunday, along with two others because of injury. That would have left Boston with only eight available players, the league minimum.

The Heat didn't even have that many cleared by the NBA to play, hence the decision to postpone. The team was staying in Boston overnight while the tracing process continued and is scheduled to play in Philadelphia — another team with virus-related issues — on Tuesday and Thursday. The 76ers played only seven players Saturday in a loss to Denver, doing so in part because some were ruled out in accordance with the virus protocols.

The NBA and National Basketball Players Association put together a plan last year to finish the season in a bubble environment at Walt Disney World in Central Florida, where nobody tested positive and no games were missed because of the virus. But it's hardly been uncommon for NBA players to miss games this season over virus-related issues, without the safety of the bubble. In Brooklyn, Kevin Durant returned to the Nets on Sunday night

after missing three games because of the virus protocols.

"I hope not," Indiana guard Victor Oladipo said when asked if he thought going back to a bubble would be possible this season. "But I think the NBA's doing all they can and they're doing a great job, and the NBPA as well, working together to do a great job to make sure we are as safe as possible. It's tough. You can try your best and unfortunately there will still be some people that catch it."

The Heat-Celtics game is the second postponed in the NBA this season. A game between Oklahoma City and Houston was postponed on Dec. 23 because the Rockets did not have enough eligible players to play — three had returned tests that were either positive or inconclusive for the coronavirus, four others were quarantined, James Harden was unavailable for violating the protocols and another player was out with an injury. That left Houston with seven players. The Celtics on Sunday ruled out Jaylen Brown, Javonte Green, Semi Ojeleye, Jayson Tatum, Tristan Thompson, Grant Williams and Robert Williams because of the protocols. That's the most any team has been without because of virus-related issues so far this



Boston Celtics center Robert Williams III (44) dunks the ball over Miami Heat guards Avery Bradley (11) and Andre Iguodala (28) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, in Miami.

Associated Press

season but does not necessarily mean any of the affected Celtics tested positive.

"The numbers are spiking," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said Saturday. "That is the

reality. We are committed to proceeding with our industry and we're doing it with all the best science and adherence to the protocols, but ultimately we're not in control." □

Kenin beats Putintseva to reach Abu Dhabi quarterfinals

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin of the United States came back from match point down to beat Yulia Putintseva and reach the quarterfinals of the Abu Dhabi Open on Sunday. Kenin posted 57 unforced errors to Putintseva's 43 but still prevailed 3-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4 over the 13th-seeded Putintseva.

"I felt like today was more of a mental match. I practice with her quite a lot so I know her game well," Kenin said. "I'm just happy with the way that I fought even though I wasn't feeling 100% on court."



In this Oct. 10, 2020, file photo, Sofia Kenin, of the United States, plays a shot against Poland's Iga Swiatek in the final match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France.

Associated Press

Kenin dropped the opening set for the second consecutive match in Abu Dhabi.

Putintseva had match

point when serving at 6-5 up in the second set, but Kenin saved the point and broke Putintseva's serve to take the set to a tiebreak. Next up is a quarterfinal match with ninth-seeded Maria Sakkari, who beat former French Open and Wimbledon champion Garbine Muguruza 7-5, 6-4, posting 33 winners to five for the more defensive Muguruza. Kenin won her two previous matches against Sakkari, both in three sets in 2018.

Also, Elina Svitolina saved two match points in a final-set tiebreak to beat Ekaterina Alexandrova 6-2, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (8) for a place in the

quarterfinals. The second-seeded Ukrainian faces another Russian opponent, Veronika Kudermetova, in the next round.

"I was just trying to be focused on every point and not let this match take away the good tennis that I played in the first set," Svitolina said.

Aryna Sabalenka recorded her 12th consecutive win in four matches with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Ons Jabeur. The fourth-seeded Sabalenka earned a measure of revenge for her defeat to Jabeur in their only previous match in the third round of the French Open in October. □



Lamar winless no more, leads Ravens to 20-13 win over Titans



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) scores a touchdown on a 48-yard run against the Tennessee Titans in the first half of an NFL wild-card playoff football game Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

By TERESA M. WALKER
AP Pro Football Writer
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Lamar Jackson finally has his first postseason victory, and coming away from Baltimore makes it even more impressive. Jackson ran for 136 yards and a 48-yard touchdown while throwing for 179 more as the Ravens rallied from 10 points down and beat the Tennessee Titans 20-13 Sunday in their AFC wild-card game. Baltimore also shut down 2,000-yard rusher Derrick Henry and held Tennessee to its fewest points all season. The Titans (11-6) had the ball and a chance to tie when Marcus Peters intercepted Ryan Tannehill's pass intended for Kalif Raymond with 1:50 left. After

the turnover, the Ravens came onto the field and started waving good-bye to the Titans — drawing a taunting penalty they didn't mind at all. "We finished finally," Jackson said. "We finally finished." The Ravens (12-5) snapped a string of 21 straight games lost by the franchise in either the regular season or playoffs when trailing by 10 or more. They will play either top-seeded Kansas City or Buffalo in a divisional game set up by how Baltimore stopped Henry for the first time in three games. The All-Pro ran all over the Ravens with 328 yards rushing combined in the past two meetings. With both Calais Campbell and Brandon Williams back

on the Baltimore D-line, Henry had his worst performance this season with 18 carries for 40 yards. Baltimore smothered a Tennessee offense that tied for fourth averaging 30.7 points a game and had more offensive yards per game during the season than any team but Kansas City. The Ravens finished with a 401-209 yards edge in total offense. The Titans lost their first home playoff game in 12 years and now have had three of their past eight postseasons ended on their own field by Baltimore. Tennessee sacked Jackson five times and got an interception. But the Titans settled for a pair of field goals and couldn't slow Jackson enough after halftime.

Jackson turned in the sixth 100-yard rushing game by a quarterback in the postseason, and joined Colin Kaepernick with two. The Titans took a 10-0 lead by outgaining Baltimore 126-36 in the first quarter, with Tannehill tossing a 10-yard TD pass to Pro Bowl wide receiver A.J. Brown. Stephen Gostkowski kicked a field goal set up by Malcolm Butler's interception, his first in the postseason since picking off Russell Wilson in Super Bowl 49 to preserve New England's win over the Seahawks. Baltimore's defense, the second-stingiest scoring unit in the NFL, took over. The Ravens held Tennessee to minus-7 yards in the second quarter, the third fewest in any quarter of a playoff game since the

2000 season.

The 2019 NFL MVP helped Baltimore pile up 134 yards as he set up a 33-yard field goal by Justin Tucker with a 28-yard pass to Marquise Brown. Jackson then tied it by breaking loose for a 48-yard TD run, diving for the pylon — the second-longest TD run by a quarterback in the Super Bowl era behind Kaepernick's 56-yarder for the 49ers against the Packers on Jan. 12, 2013. Rookie J.K. Dobbins made it 17-10 with a 4-yard TD run to open the third quarter. That gave him a rushing TD in seven straight games, second only to Maurice Jones-Drew's eight in 2006 since the 1970 merger. The Titans finally stopped the Ravens' scoring spree at 17 when Gostkowski kicked a 25-yard field goal to start the fourth quarter, pulling within 17-13.

RARE TUCKER MISS

The Ravens missed a chance to pad their lead when Tucker, with an NFL-best 90.7% kicking percentage on field goals, missed a 52-yarder wide right early in the fourth quarter. Tucker had made 48 straight field goals in the fourth quarter or overtime since his last miss from 55 yards Dec. 6, 2015, in a loss to Miami. Tucker made his next kick, a 51-yarder for the final margin.

INJURIES

Titans wide receiver Corey Davis was seen on the sideline without a helmet but there was no report on his condition.

UP NEXT

The Ravens either continue their revenge with a visit to Kansas City or head to Buffalo. The Titans head into the offseason with fixing their defense at the top of their to-do list. □